

## Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OES-06

AID-05 HEW-04 OMB-01 IO-13 SIL-01 LAB-04 /093 W

----- 046844

R 040932Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9080

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV PINT NL

SUBJECT: ABORTION BILL PASSES SECOND CHAMBER

REF: THE HAGUE 4148

1. ON SEPT 29 THE SECOND CHAMBER PASSED A JOINT LABOR-LIBERAL BILL WHICH EFFECTIVELY LEGALIZES ABORTION DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF PREGNANCY. IF THE BILL BECOMES LAW, IT STILL MUST PASS THE FIRST CHAMBER AND BE SIGNED BY MINISTERS AND THE QUEEN, IT WILL TAKE REGULATION OF ABORTION CLINICS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CATHOLIC JUSTICE MINISTER VAN AGT AND GIVE IT TO A COMMISSION OF HEALTH OFFICIALS. ABORTION CLINICS ARE CURRENTLY ILLEGAL BASED ON A 1911 LAW, BUT A SERIES OF COURT DECISIONS HAS PERMITTED THEM TO OPERATE, ALTHOUGH NOT WITHOUT COMING INTO CONFLICT WITH VAN AGT.

2. AT THE MOMENT, THE BILL'S FUTURE IS UNCLEAR. IT MAY BE DELAYED OR EVEN VOTED DOWN IN THE FIRST CHAMBER, OR VAN AGT MIGHT REFUSE TO SIGN AND POSSIBLY PRECIPITATE A CABINET CRISIS. THE BILL'S SUPPORTERS SEEM CONFIDENT, HOWEVER. THEY PLAN, IF NECESSARY, TO DELAY A VOTE IN THE FIRST CHAMBER UNTIL AFTER THE MAY 1977 ELECTIONS, IN WHICH THEY EXPECT THE CONFSSIONALS

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TO LOSE SEATS. IN ANY CASE, THE BILL SHOULD NOT REACH VAN

AGT'S DESK UNTIL A MONTH BEFORE ELECTIONS AT EARLIEST; TOO  
LATE FOR HIM TO HAVE MUCH INFLUENCE.

3. THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF POLITICAL FALLOUT. PRIME  
MINISTER DEN UYL IS KEEPING HIS DISTANCE AND THE ISSUE SEEMS  
UNLIKELY TO SWAY DUTCH VOTERS. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNI-  
CATION BETWEEN THE PVDA AND VVD AMY PROVE TO BE THE MAJOR  
POLITICAL EFFECT OF THE EPISODE.  
BROWN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ABORTION, REPORTS, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976THEHA05439  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760373-0865  
**From:** THE HAGUE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761083/aaaacutcl  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 THE HAGUE 4148  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ABORTION BILL PASSES SECOND CHAMBER  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, NL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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